What is claimed is:

1. A system for incrementally executing a client/server application, leveraging existing communications network infrastructure having at least one client
5   computer and at least one server computer, wherein the at least one client computer and the at least one server computer are in communications with each other over one or more communications links within the network infrastructure, the system comprising:

a server component comprising a plurality of portions, and provided on
10   the at least one server computer; and

a client component provided on the at least one client computer, the client component including one or more command selectors, each of the one or more command selectors having:

associated code for selecting a function available from the
15   plurality of portions of the server component; and

an associated parameter for use by the server component in determining the appropriate portion of the plurality of portions to execute to provide the selected function.

20   2. The system according to claim 1, wherein one portion of the plurality of portions is a compact portion initially executed upon receipt of a first application function request from the client component, the compact portion delivering a streamlined subset of functions applicable to commands most commonly requested to provide a fast executing initial portion of the
25   application.

3. A method for incrementally executing a client/server application, leveraging existing communications network infrastructure having at least one client computer and at least one server computer, wherein the at least one client
30   computer and the at least one server computer are in communications with each other over one or more communications links within the network infrastructure, the method comprising the steps of:

(i)   providing a server component comprising a plurality of portions on the at least one server computer;

(ii)   providing a client component on the at least one client computer,

(iii)   executing an appropriate portion from the plurality of portions of the server component applicable to and upon an initial request from the client component for an application function;

5   (iv)   executing an applicable additional portion of the plurality of portions of the server component for each request received from the client component for an application function not available from any running portion or portions of the server component; and

10   (v)   running all executed portions until an end session command is received.

4. The method according to claim 3, wherein one portion of the plurality of portions is a compact portion initially executed upon receipt of a first

15   application function request from the client component, the compact portion delivering a streamlined subset of functions applicable to commands most commonly requested to provide a fast executing initial portion of the application.

20   5. A system for incrementally executing a client/server application, leveraging existing communications network infrastructure having at least one client computer and at least one server computer, wherein the at least one client computer and the at least one server computer are in communications with each other over one or more communications links within the network

25   infrastructure, the system comprising:

means for providing a server component comprising a plurality of portions on the at least one server computer;

means for providing a client component on the at least one client computer,

30   means for executing an appropriate portion from the plurality of portions of the server component applicable to and upon an initial request from the client component for an application function;

means for executing an applicable additional portion of the plurality of portions of the server component for each request received from the

client component for an application function not available from any running portion or portions of the server component; and

means for running all executed portions until an end session command is received.

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6. The system according to claim 5, wherein one portion of the plurality of portions is a compact portion initially executed upon receipt of a first application function request from the client component, the compact portion delivering a streamlined subset of functions applicable to commands most

10 commonly requested to provide a fast executing initial portion of the application.

7. A storage medium readable by a computer, the medium encoding a computer process to provide a method for incrementally executing a

15 client/server application leveraging existing communications network infrastructure having at least one client computer and at least one server computer, wherein the at least one client computer and the at least one server computer are in communications with each other over one or more communications links within the network infrastructure, the computer process

20 comprising:

a processing portion for providing a server component comprising a plurality of portions on the at least one server computer;

a processing portion for providing a client component on the at least one client computer,

25 a processing portion for executing an appropriate portion from the plurality of portions of the server component applicable to and upon an initial request from the client component for an applicable function;

a processing portion for executing an applicable additional portion of the plurality of portions of the server component for each request

30 received from the client component for an application function not available from any running portion or portions of the server component; and

a processing portion for running all executed portions until an end session command is received.

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein one portion of the plurality of portions is a compact portion initially executed upon receipt of a first application function request from the client component, the compact portion delivering a streamlined subset of functions applicable to commands most commonly requested to provide a fast executing initial portion of the application.